

The Spark Gap

Next meeting Sept. 16, 1976 at 324 Washington St., Wellesley Hills Ma. at 7:30 PM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: This past summer has been an active one at the club. Two novice classes are being taught simultaneously and one general class. We are currently in the process of putting the final touches to the new console that has been built. Installation of the equipment, hopefully, will be completed by the first meeting and most of the equipment will be on display but not operational.

However, the Communications Center will be fully operational for the open house and the QSO party planned for, in November.

Once again we are going to have a very busy club year, and in order for us to expand our operations and to undertake additional tasks, we are formulating a task assignment listing, outlining specific tasks and their descriptions. We will be asking more and more personnel within the membership, to participate in performing some of the tasks that will be mentioned. So, when the time comes to present the task assignment outlines to the membership, if a particular assignment appeals to you, speak up, it is your chance to serve your club and the rest of the members. In doing so, you will help us to move forward and be able to expand for a bigger and better future.

We are once again planning to be at the NATICK MALL this year. Our present commitment calls for us to participate in the MESSAGE FAIR for four days. Plans are currently being formulated for this exercise, and we will be asking the complete membership at the September meeting, to sign up so that we will be able to complete a sked of personnel by the November meeting. This is quite a large task for the planners and your utmost cooperation will be quite welcomed.

Traditionally, our first meeting every year is set aside to invite people who are interested in becoming radio amateurs. This year is not going to be any different and it is known as Novice Night. There will be several people in attendance that will be there to sign up for the fall classes. In addition, Joe McGrath, our instructor for the next class, will be speaking to them about amateur radio, and the class schedule. We also plan to have a film on hand to show these people regarding the amateur fraternity.

At the end of this issue of the SPARK GAP, you will find a schedule of planned events for the club for the next year. It has been published on the last page so you can remove it and tack it up on the wall of your shack for future reference.

I sincerely hope that everyone has had a pleasant summer and I will look forward to meeting with you again at the September meeting.

73's

Don Chesley, WA1HVS
Pres. W.A.R.S.

And, with that to kick things off, you can get an idea of the planning we have been doing over the summer months for your enjoyment. Cooperation will be the key to a successful 1976-1977 year for the club.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 604 FROM ARRL HQ. Beginning Oct. 1, 1976, the FCC will cease issuing distinctive call signs to Novices. FCC states that the practice has created difficulties in processing applications, and has generally proven unsatisfactory. So, starting on Oct. 1, novices will be issued call signs that would not require changing upon upgrading to a permanent class of license. That is, Novices will be issued call signs with prefixes such as WA, WB, WD, KH6, KL7, etc. Those novices currently holding licenses expiring Oct. 1 or later, will be automatically issued new licenses in the

near future to reflect the changes. This group should continue using their Novice prefix until receipt of the modified licenses.

Now to bring you up to date a little. We have a new General in David Curry, WALTAK, new novices are John Chapman WNIWER and George Young, WNIYAU. Congratulations fellows.

Over the summer many of you have been away and it is nice to let people know where you were and what you did. I don't know much of what you did but Gordon Kingsley, WALTAM has been up at Casco, Maine, Jim Idelson, WAIQJU has been down to a Winsted, Ct. camp as an electronics instructor, and both have been active on the bands, having taken along their radio gear with them. Don Chesley, WAIHVS, Joe McGrath, WAIJIR and Chris Wiles, WAIWGA went to Philadelphia to the ARRL Convention and had a ball. Dont forget the upcoming ARRL Convention on the weekend of Sept. 10-11 right here in Boston's Statler Hilton.

Our field day operation down on Long Island in Boston Harbor was a lot of fun and we were fortunate to have the crew of Channel 5 come out to take some movies and run it off on TV. It was nice to see the fellows on the tube and the WARS got a little more publicity along with amateur radio in general. This had to be a great field day because we had everything going for us, weather conditions, equipment and a great gang of guys who all turned to and did one fantastic job. All in all we had 35 people out to the site. Participants were Don Chesley, Chris Wiles, Cheryl Chesley, Tina Bruni, Doug Hart, Joe McGrath, Roger Wilmarth, Jim Hatherley, David Curry, Dick Jansson, Ed Jansson, Paul Burkhardt, Sam Nuywayser, Scott Lyden, David Crockford, Tim McNamara, Bill Downing, Mike Adlerstein, Martha Gauthier, Kevin Kelly, Russ DesJourdy, Bernard May, Rich Paret, Eric Rasmussen, John McReynolds plus members of the TV Channel 5 crew. During the activity, we had mostly good weather but on Friday night a fog rolled in and the place cooled off a little but not the rigs, they were in full swing. Bill Downing's ACCU-MEMORY was simply fantastic for contest-type work, and saved the operator a lot of extra keying by simply pressing one of the appropriate memory buttons. The food was good with fried barbecued chicken, corn on the cob, potatoes, scrambled eggs with sausage, plus lots more. No one went off hungry, you can bet on that, our thanks to Cheryl Chesley and Tina Bruni for making such great food. All in all, it was a good experience and surely a lot of fun for those who took part. We hope to see more fellows there next year.

Just a little mention to the new people who are currently enrolled in our novice classes. These classes are free and we want you to bring others into the classes whenever you can. If you wish to become a member of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society, you are cordially invited to join though this is not mandatory. You can get details from your instructors, just ask them about it. We do hope you give this consideration.

In November we are planning to celebrate the club's 25th anniversary. We do have some ideas but are keeping this open to hearing what you might suggest in making this event a memorable one. We are planning an open house but you may have some ideas of your own that will add some zest to the occasion. More on this in the next issue of SPARK GAP.

NOTE: For those of you who haven't heard yet, technicians and novices may now use up to 250 watts input on the novice bands and the technicians can, at long last, work some cw so they can upgrade their tickets. That 250 watt input limit also concerns all people, extras on down, when they are in the novice portion of the bands.

Being the first edition of the paper for the season, we haven't got too many WANT ADS or FOR SALE ADS to note but if you do have anything you are looking for or want to sell, please contact Jim Hatherley for publication in the paper. All I have for the moment is that Bill Downing WAIPOY is looking for a 2 mtr transceiver and also a preamp for 10 meters, so if some of you have such gear laying around, give Bill a call, his number is 235 4484.

The club was called upon during the recent alert on hurricane Belle to set up emergency operations expecting the worst from the storm. All things fell into place well but there was room for improvement. Fortunately, Belle, didn't bother us too much but it was good to get in some practice should that emergency have been more than it was. It shows that the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society is in there whenever the need is there. To all who participated in it, a WELL DONE.

As a point of interest, below is a picture of Dick Jansson, WA1QLI with his 2 mtr back-pack, complete with batteries and all. Dick was prepared to be sure. Dick was



actually using this set-up during the emergency. He also had a base station completely set up on emergency power in case the local power went out. Perhaps this ~~back-pack~~ might encourage some of you fellows to duplicate his gear for field-trips as well as emergencies. This also marks another first for the SPARK GAP, insorfar as we have never run a photo before but I have been told it can be done so we hope you will enjoy it and maybe we can publish other interesting shots that you might want to share with the club. All we need is a good print and we will be able to do the fest. We hope to do more of this in future editions but we have to start somewhere and thought that this shot was appropriate due to the recent hurricane alert.

Did you know that the ARRL has sent a proposal to the FCC requesting that they make some room on the bands for novices to be able to go on phone? At the moment it is in the works but it is something you can watch for during the coming months. The frequencies asked to be added to the novice spectrum are 145-145.5 and 222-225 mhz CW, AM and FM with 50 watts DC input.

A report from Bill Downing who is in charge of setting up the EDUCATIONAL DEPT. OF THE CLUB. Things are really looking up for our novice and general classes. We owe much to the newfound popularity of CB and scanner monitoring, for it is primarily from these two groups that we draw new class members.

Chris Wiles, WA1RGA, completed novice course instructions in the early summer and reports that 8 people took the FCC examination. He is currently winding up the course in General class theory before he is due back at college.

Dick Weissel, WA1HRV, started another novice class in mid-summer with about 20-25 students in attendance on the first night. He is doing a FB job for a newcomer to teaching. Dave Goldman, W1YSW, and K1GFH have also lent a hand when the need for a substitute arose. Thanks for your participation and help gentlemen.

The next scheduled novice class will convene on Sept. 16th, the date of our first club meeting. Joe McGrath, WA1JIR, has kindly offered to teach the group. Hopefully, recipients of the SPARK GAP will spread the word to those who are interested in getting a ticket.

Finally, if anyone wants to teach a novice class, they should write or phone me at 235-4484 as soon as possible so that plans can be arranged. We need all the help we can get, so please give this serious consideration.

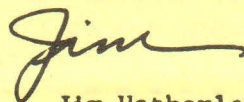
Best 73's
Bill Downing WA1PQY

And now for that old familiar subject, DUES. It will be due on September 1, 1976 and will run for a fiscal year from that date. This was voted upon at the May meeting. We have discussed the need of raising the dues from three to five dollars a year and this proposal was tabled at the May meeting because of the Field Day Planning. It is expected that this increase will be voted for at this Sept. meeting. With the costs of running the club rising, it is imperative that we have the necessary monies to do the job properly, so please come to this meeting and vote as you see fit. It was also voted that the new members who joined from May on, be carried on the books for the ensuing year with the exception of the dues increase, should it pass. This seemed only fair as they weren't in the club for the entire year and this motion was passed. Your prompt payment of whatever the dues is, will be appreciated by yours truly who is also the Treasurer of the club. Checks can be made out to Wellesley Amateur Radio Society and mailed to 324 Washington St., Wellesley Hills, Mass. 02181 or to my home address of 46 Hobson St., Brighton, Mass. 02135. I would guess that the amount would most likely be the five(\$5.00) dollars.

We have a few members of the club who have been working on a 6 meter repeater. We do have the call for that repeater and now have to get the rig on the air to be operational. More on this as we get into the year though.

And, finally, we hope to see a good turnout for this meeting and get the club off to another banner year. In coming editions we hope to have a few more departments to expand your interest in the full spectrum of the club's activities. It has been fun getting out this first copy of the year and fun to be contemplating our first meeting of the 1976-77 calender year.

73's



Jim Hatherley W1TBY

FOR SALE: Hammarlund HQ145X General coverage receiver. Knight T60 CW transmitter. 3 ten foot sections of tower. \$200.00 cash or trade for one of three things. A 2 meter transceiver, CB gear or a 4'X 8' Utility trailer. For further info call Joe McGrath W1JIR or Arnie Arnold 479-6767.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION K1MUJ, will sponsor a flea market and an auction on Sept. 19th at the Rocking D Campground in South Killingly, Conn., from 10:00 AM through 5:00 PM. Table space at the flea market will be 2.00 and auction commissions will be 10%. Talk in on 2 mtrs FM 52-52, monitoring 16-76 repeater. Six meters 50.320 AM, 50.110 SSB and CB Changel 14. Directions to the site. The campground is located on Snake Meadow Rd. in S. Killingly Ct., 3 miles east of Danielson off RTE 6. Those coming in from the north or south, get off RTE 52 at exit 91, take RTE 6 east towards Providence. Snake Meadows Road will be on the right about 3 miles. Look for signs. Overnight camping available. Refreshments also but please dont bring any glass containers along. 73, Milt K1ZKR

EDITORS NOTE: If you have any activities you would like to see printed in this paper, please send them along before the end of the 3rd week of the month in order to make the press deadline. We try to have the SPARK GAP in your hands by the first of the month, so keep this in mind. Thank you all.

REMINDER: THE ANNUAL ARRL NEW ENGLAND CONVENTION WILL BE HELD ON THE WEEKEND OF SEPT. 10, 11 and 12. AT THE STATLER HILTON HOTEL IN BOSTON. See the announcement in QST for details and if you have never taken one in, you will enjoy the many seminars on all parts of Amateur Radio as well as see some of the items you read about in the ads. I hope you can make it as it is time well spent.

WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
324 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS MASS 02181
"1976" CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES "1977"

SEPTEMBER 16, 1976 NOVICE NIGHT NEW DUES - BUDGET 77 ARRL VISIT OCT 23, 1976 ANNOUNCE NATICK MALL	OCTOBER 7, 1976 NATICK MALL PRELIMINARY VET DAY PARADE PLAN WARS NET REPORT WARS APPOINTMENTS	NOVEMBER 4, 1976 NATICK MALL FINAL PLAN JANUARY S.E.T. OPEN HOUSE PLANS SIX METER RPTR REPORT
FILM FOR NOVICES FIELD DAY SUMMARY QSO PARTY ANNOUNCEMENT NOV	OCTOBER 21, 1976 NATICK MALL PLAN R. SMITH SPEAK ON DX FILM ?? JAN VHF QSO PARTY (CLUB ENTRY)	NOVEMBER 18, 1976 OPEN HOUSE QSO PARTY FIELD DAY FILM PRESENTATION STATION OPERATION
JANUARY 6, 1977 FIELD DAY PRELIMINARY PLAN KLOG SPEAK ON OSCAR JANUARY S.E.T. NATICK MALL MSG DAY REPORT	FEBRUARY 3, 1977 AUCTION PLANS HARVARD OBSERVATORY SPEAKER	MARCH 3, 1977 AUCTION FINAL PLANS FIELD DAY DISCUSSION TECHNICAL SEMINAR
JANUARY 20, 1977 S.E.T. PLAN FILM AUCTION PLANS VHF CONTEST REVIEW NOVICE ROUNDUP APRIL 7, 1977	FEBRUARY 17, 1977 AUCTION PLANS NOVICE ROUNDUP RESULTS FILM/TECHNICAL TALK MAY 3, 1977	MARCH 19, 1977 ARRL SPEAKER AUCTION FINAL PLAN JUNE 2, 1977
WLB 160 METER SPEAKER ARRL VISIT PLANS AUCTION REPORT	RTTY SPEAKER FILM/TECHNICAL SEMINAR	FIELD DAY WORKSHOP ARRL VISIT REPORT
APRIL 21, 1977 FIELD DAY PLANS NOMINATE NEW OFFICERS NEW BUDGET 77-78	MAY 19, 1977 FIELD DAY PLANS EQUIP VOTE IN NEW OFFICERS VOTE NEW BUDGET	JUNE 16, 1977 FIELD DAY FINAL PLANS WORKSHOP SEPTEMBER VHF QSO PARTY ANNOUNCEMENT NEXT MTG SEPT 22, 1977

CLIP  AND SAVE